

a security label deactivation system between the base portion and the weigh plate which deactivates a security label affixed to the item after the barcode is read by the barcode reader.

2. (original) The checkout device as recited in claim 1, wherein the barcode reader enables the security label deactivation system following reading of the barcode.

3. (currently amended) The checkout device as recited in claim 1, wherein the security label deactivation system includes a magnetic coil assembly for sensing and deactivating a the security label.

A 4. (original) The checkout device as recited in claim 3, wherein the barcode reader reads the barcode before the magnetic coil assembly senses and deactivates the security label.

5. (original) The checkout device as recited in claim 1, further comprising an interlock which enables the security label deactivation system following reading of the barcode.

6. (currently amended) The checkout device as recited in claim 1, wherein the scale assembly fits within a ~~standard~~ checkstand hole measuring about 11.5 inches by 20 inches.

7. (currently amended) A checkout system comprising:

a checkout device including

a scale assembly including a base portion and a weigh ~~scale~~ plate over the base portion;

wherein the weigh plate includes an aperture;

a barcode reader between the base portion and the weight ~~scale~~ plate, the barcode reader reading which reads a barcode affixed to an item through the aperture in the weigh plate; and

an security label deactivation system between the base portion and the weight scale which deactivates a security label affixed to the item after the barcode is read by the barcode reader;

a transaction terminal; and

a cable coupling the checkout device to the transaction terminal, including lines for providing power to the barcode reader and the scale assembly.

A 8. (original) The checkout system as recited in claim 7, wherein the cable further comprises additional lines for carrying data between the transaction terminal and the barcode reader and between the transaction terminal and the scale.

9. (original) The checkout system as recited in claim 7, wherein the cable is a Y-shaped cable.

10. (original) The checkout system as recited in claim 9, wherein the barcode reader includes first and second ports.

11. (original) The checkout system as recited in claim 10, wherein the Y-shaped cable includes a first connector which is coupled to a third port of the transaction terminal, a second connector which is coupled to the first port of the barcode reader, and a third connector which is coupled to a fourth port of the scale assembly.

12. (original) A checkout method comprising the steps of:

reading a barcode label on an item moving in a path, which crosses an aperture of a scale weigh plate by a barcode reader between the aperture and a scale base portion;

sending a signal to an interlock by the barcode reader;

enabling a security label deactivation system between the scale weigh plate and the scale base portion and in a downstream position from the barcode reader relative to the path of the item;

detecting a security label on the item by the security label deactivation system as the item moves along the path and crosses the security label deactivation system; and

deactivating the security label by the security label deactivation system.

13. (currently amended) The method as recited in claim 12, wherein the detecting step comprises the substeps of:

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end sensing movement of a magnetic material in the security label as it passes near a coil assembly in the security label deactivation system.

14. (original) The method as recited in claim 12, wherein the detecting step comprises the substeps of:

demagnetizing a magnetic material in the security label as it passes near a coil assembly in the security label deactivation system.
